M

Development (1948) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 795

Dated 19-2-1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

Labour - Conditions of labour in Handloom Industry in the Province - Report of the Court of Enquiry - Orders passed -

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
ABSTRACT

LABOUR - Conditions of Labour in the Handloom Industry in the Province - Report of the Court of Enquiry - Orders passed -

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

G.O.Ms.No.795. dated 19th February, 1948.
Read the following papers:

G.O.No.2354, Development dated 28-5-1947.
From the Court of Enquiry letter H.L.No.813/47, dated 29-12-1947.

ORDER:

In G.O.No.2354, Development, dated 28.5.1947, the Government appointed a court of enquiry under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 to enquire into the conditions of labour in the handloom, industry in the Province. They have now received the Court's report and the following are the recommendations of the Court.

(1) The chain of middlemen in yarn and cloth business must be eliminated and a drastic revisionof dyeing charges should be made so that the price of handloom goods may be reduced, and a good market may be secured for the industry.

(2) Every effort must be made to increase the supply of yarn which will provide employment to the weavers for 24 days in a month so that the wages of weavers may fall automatically.

(3) Every Weavers Co-operative Production and Sale Society should open a credit department which must be able to finance the indebted weavers to liquidate their debts to the outsiders. The society must be made to function as a multi-purpose society catering to all the material needs of the weaving community.

(4) As there is an unqualified desire on the part of the weavers to become members of Co-operative Societies, the Weavers' Co-operative movement should be extended to embrace the entire community of weavers and coercion must be adopted to bring all the weavers in the Co-operative fold.

(5) Weavers should not be compelled to take coloured yarn.

(6) The provisions of the Non-power Factories Act, the Employment of Children Act, the Payment of Wages Act, the Madras Maternity Benefit Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act, must be applied to the handloom industry.

(7) A bonus of 3 months' wages may be paid to all the workers in all the Handloom factories in the province for the year 1916-17. All dependent weavers may be paid by their master weavers bonus equal to one sixth of their annual earnings for the year 1946-47.

(8) A system of Compulsory provident fund may be constituted and the workers and the employers may contribute equally at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the wages paid.

2. All control over Handloom cloth except over the price its export to other Province in India, has been removed and the price has been left to be adjusted by the trade. The control over distribution of yarn and the system of licensing dealers in yarn is being retained, but the price will be as fixed by the mills. The policy of the Government is to bring all weavers within the Co-operative fold, but of the pres[illegible] trade, the Government have pr

postponed the registration of the new Societies and admission of new looms to existing societies for some time. When all the weavers are brought within the Co-operative fold, the middlemen in handloom cloth and yarn will disappear. The system of supplying weavers with coloured instead of grey yearn, has already been abolished in the districts of Cuddappah, Kistna, Nellore, Ramnad, Salem, and Vizagapatam. The arrangement for the supply of Coloured yearn by the dyers in Madura and Madras to the districts of Chittoor, Coimbatore, Guntur, Kistna and Trichinopoly, has been discontinued. The question of further decontrol in this direction, is being pursued in other districts. The Non-Power Factories Act will be applied to handloom Weaving also.

3. The Government are in general agreement with the recommendations of the Court, commend them to the workers and managements of the several handloom factories and request the latter to give effect to the recommendations of the Court.

4. The Commissioner of Labour is requested to send a copy of this order to the management of every handloom factory and to the trade unions of workers working in such factories.

5. The Commissioner of Labour is requested to offer his remarks on the suggestion of the Court to apply the provisions of the Employment of Children Act, the Payment of Wages Act, the Madras Maternity Benefit Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act to the handloom industry.

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor of Madras)

K.G. Menon,
Secretary to Government.

To
The Commissioner of Labour, Madras.
The Provincial Textile Commissioner, Madras,
The Registrar of Co-operative Socieities, Madras.
The Registrar Industrial Tribunal. Madras. Block No.XVI, Fort St. George.
The Industrial Tribunal, Bezwada, C/O Labour Officer, Bezwada.
The Industrial Tribunal, Madura, C/O District and Sessions Judge, Tinnevelly,
The Industrial Tribunal,Coimbatore.
All District Magistrates.
Copy to:-
The Government of India, Ministry of Labour(5 copies)
The Secretary to the Govt. of Bihar, Revenue and Labour Department, Patna.
The Government of Bombay, Political and Services Department, Bombay.
The Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Commerce Labour and Industries Department, Calcutta.
The Secretary to the Govt. of Orissa, Commerce and Labour Dept., Cuttack.
The Secretary to the Govt. of United Province, Labour Department, Lucknow.
The Govt. of Central Provinces and Berar, Labour Department, Nagpur(2 copies)

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The Secretary to the Govt. of East Punjab, Industries and Reconstruction Department, Simla.
The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, General & Ø/Judicial Department, Shillong.
The Chief Commissioner, Delhi.
The Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara,
The Commissioner of Labour, West Bengal, Calcutta,
The Commissioner of Labour, Bihar, Patna.
The Director of Labour Information, Wellington Cinema Building, Dhobi Talao, Bombay-2.
The Registrar, Industrial Court, Bombay(2 copies).
The Chief Commissioner Coorg.

/True Copy/

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

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